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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/690,287	10/21/2003	Takeshi Okazawa	NEC 20.688	4557
26304	7590	06/20/2005		
KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP 575 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10022-2585			EXAMINER PHUNG, ANH K	
			ART UNIT 2824	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 06/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/690,287	Applicant(s) OKAZAWA, TAKESHI	
	Examiner ANH PHUNG	Art Unit 2824	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 October 2003.
 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4-10 is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/21/03 & 9/27/04</u> . | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Search History</u> . |

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the Election dated May 27, 2007, the elected claims **1-10** are pending in the application. Non-elected claims **11-20** are withdrawn from further consideration. Applicant is requested to cancel non-elected claims **11-20** in the next response to this Office Action.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. This office acknowledges receipt of the following items from the Applicant:
Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on October 21, 2003 and
September 27, 2004.

Information disclosed and listed on PTO 1449(s) was considered.

Priority

3. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Objections

4. Claim **8** is objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim **8**:

Line 29, the word "aid" should be – **said** --.

Line 30, the phrase "the plurality of sub-row lines" should be – the plurality
of **first** sub-row lines --.

Line 32, the phrase "the main lines" should be – the main **row** lines --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Okazawa (US 6,532,163).

Regarding independent claim 1, Okazawa discloses in Figures 4-6, a magnetic random access memory (MRAM), comprising a first wiring (SB11-SB1n, Fig. 4) through which a write current is caused to flow in one direction; a selecting transistor (BT11-BT1n, Fig. 4) connected to the first wiring (SB11-SB1n, Fig. 4) for controlling the write current; and a plurality of magnetic memory cells (C, Fig. 4) each arranged on an upstream side with respect to the position of the first wiring (SB11-SB1n, Fig. 4) where the selecting transistor (BT11-BT1n, Fig. 4) is provided, one ends of the plurality of magnetic memory cells (C, Fig. 4) being connected to the first wiring (SB11-SB1n, Fig. 4).

Regarding dependent claim 2, Okazawa also discloses the other ends of the plurality of MRAM cells (C, Fig. 4) are connected to a second wiring (SW11-SW1m, Fig. 4) through which a current is caused to flow in both directions.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claim **3** is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Okazawa (US 6,532,163) discloses a magnetic random access memory (MRAM) similar to that of the present application, but failed to teach “the first wiring is a first sub- wiring, and the first sub-wiring is connected to a first main wiring directly, not through a transistor, and the second wiring is a second sub-wiring, and the second sub- wiring is connected to a second main wiring through a transistor” as claimed in the dependent claim **3**.

8. Claims **4-10** are allowed.

Okazawa (US 6,532,163) discloses a magnetic random access memory (MRAM) similar to that of the present application, but failed to teach:

“a select transistor coupled to the other end of one of said sub-word and said sub-bit lines” as claimed in the independent claim **4**.

“wherein each of the plurality of first sub-row lines of the first memory cell array has two end portions, and one of the two end portions is connected to one of the main row lines, and the other end portion of the two end portions is connected to a first row selecting transistor, and each of the plurality of first sub-column lines of the first memory cell array has two end portions, and one of the two end portions is connected to one of the main column lines through a column

selecting transistor, and the other end portion of the two end portions is connected to a write circuit" as claimed in the independent claim **8**.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Tsang (U.S. Pat. No. 6,870,759) and Takano et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,891,742) disclose a magnetic random access memory (MRAM) similar to that of Okazawa (US 6,532,163).

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **ANH PHUNG** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1883**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **RICHARD ELMS**, can be reached on **(571) 272-1869**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **(703) 872-9306**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

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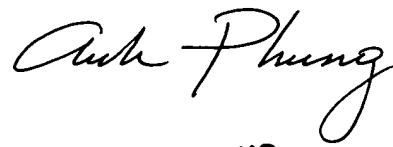
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system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866-217-9197** (toll-free).

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AKP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anh Phung". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anh" and last name "Phung" clearly distinguishable.

**ANH PHUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER**